

From: DEACON2002@aol.com@inetgw
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/24/02 3:53pm
Subject: Attention Renata Hesse

Andy Yates
Deacon2002@aol.com
Wake Forest University
Winston-Salem, NC

January 24, 2002

Renata Hesse
Trial Attorney
Antitrust Division
Department of Justice
601 D Street NW, Suite 1200
Washington, DC 20530

Dear Ms. Hesse,

As a graduating senior at Wake Forest University and president of the College Republicans Club, I have been a student in the "technological age" since I was in high school. In fact, as you may or may not know, Wake Forest was one of the first schools in the nation to require that all students have assigned lap-top computers for their dorms and classes. In the many years I have spent working with these educational tools, of course, Microsoft products iare practically all I have used. During that time, I have never experienced any "consumer harm" from being one of millions of Microsoft users on thousands of college campuses across this country.

Since I have great interest in political matters, I have followed the Microsoft case with some interest and I wanted to comment at this time. Despite the fact that I have never approved of the government's handling of this case, I do heartily endorse the settlement in the case because it is the right thing to do. It is wrong to keep a company like Microsoft legally bottled up for so long and to keep government lawyers tied up on a case that would simply go on year after year and appeal after appeal. And since all major parties to the case agree to the settlement--except for nine AGs--why not?

In reviewing the settlement, I saw that Microsoft would come under independent monitoring and would have to make guarantees in regard to product production, etc. This sounds like the kind of conditions that the Department of Justice has been seeking all along and I am glad that all parties will benefit. But such is the nature of a settlement, true?

I appreciate the opportunity to express my views on this topic.

Sincerely,

Andy Yates